









In the House of Commons on Nov. 10th, Mr. A. M. Arthur asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether Her Majesty's Government would lay upon the table any correspondence which might have passed between them and the Government of China relative to the extradition of criminals, or the judicial practice of torture in connection with the Mixed Consular Courts of the Treaty Ports. Lord E. Fitzmaurice: Her Majesty's Government have been in correspondence with the Government of China on various times, as cases have arisen, on the subject of the extradition of criminals, fugitives by the Government of the colony of Hongkong under Article 21 of the Treaty of Tientsin and the undertaking which is given against the use of torture. There is no correspondence relative to the Mixed Courts at the Treaty Ports. Her Majesty's Government do not propose to lay any papers at present.

This statement that the French were willing to arrange terms of peace with China on the basis of the execution of the Tientsin Convention and the withdrawal of the claim for an indemnity, are confirmed by the mail news received to-day. The *Figaro*, for instance, asserts that not only has M. Fatio received instructions to accept, as the basis for the negotiations, the abandonment by France of any claim of indemnity, the formal acceptance of the Tientsin Treaty, and the withdrawal of the demand of the Tong-King frontier is established, and the occupation of Kailung that is done, but also that Mr. Jules Ferry reckons on being able to place the Chamber face to face with the question of the Tientsin Convention. The *Figaro* also says that M. Fatio has warned the Cabinet in vain with regard to the evil effect that the acceptance of such terms by France will entail. It adds that the French Minister has even given it as his opinion that French troops would have the effect of diminishing the influence of France in the extreme East, and of increasing the pride of the Mandarins.

#### RIFLE MEETING.

The competition which had been promoted by a number of gentlemen interested in shooting was opened to-day on the Police Range at Kowloon. Seven teams entered for the competition, but only six have been able to fire. The scores made by the team who have fired will be found below, and the team representing the Police is the only one which has yet to fire. Shooting was commenced about nine o'clock this morning, the teams from the Royal Artillery (old Battery) and H. B. M. navy firing first. These teams enjoyed more favourable conditions for firing than any other teams which competed during the day, there being no wind, and the light being subdued without haziness. As yet the Artillerymen have made the highest total, and one of them (Bom. Walsh) has also made the highest individual score. The average score for the Artillerymen is 47, and as they fired with the carbine, they are thus quite independent of the 27 points allowed them from the rifle, the highest total with this weapon being made by the Marines, who only scored 370. The team from the Buffs, and that representing the Staff Sergeants and Royal Engineers fired together, the former firing with the rifle, and the latter with the carbine. A rather brisk breeze, blowing across the range from the right rear, sprung up when they reached the second range, and this continued to increase until it caused for the day. The Marines fired alone, and as it was almost half past three before they finished, the Police, who should have fired along with the Volunteers, refused to fire, and we think, justly, as they were very ill at ease, following their example. Before the latter had well reached the second range, the light was very defective, and must have told greatly against good firing. They, however, managed to make a very respectable score. The Police were then commencing at 3.30. They should win their average for the last few practices has been 61.

The Committee deserve the thanks of all who are interested for the interest they have taken in their work. The handicapping of the rifles was, however, generally considered to be too heavy. The following are the names of the Committees:—Major Gellatly, 'The Buffs'; Lieut. Clement, R.N.; Capt. Lister, R.M.L.I.; Lieut. Connolly, R.A.; Lieut. Vynny, Fort-Adj.; Lieut. Knight, 'The Buffs'; Capt. Blythe, Adj. H.K.F.; Capt. Francis, H.K.F.

Annexed are the scores:—

ROYAL ARTILLERY, OLD BATTERY.	
1. Capt. M. Arthur	370
2. Lieut. Gellatly	370
3. Lieut. Connolly	370
4. Lieut. Vynny	370
5. Lieut. Knight	370
6. Lieut. Blythe	370
7. Lieut. Francis	370
8. Lieut. Clement	370
9. Lieut. Lister	370
10. Lieut. Connolly	370
11. Lieut. Vynny	370
12. Lieut. Knight	370
13. Lieut. Blythe	370
14. Lieut. Francis	370
15. Lieut. Clement	370
16. Lieut. Lister	370
17. Lieut. Connolly	370
18. Lieut. Vynny	370
19. Lieut. Knight	370
20. Lieut. Blythe	370
21. Lieut. Francis	370
22. Lieut. Clement	370
23. Lieut. Lister	370
24. Lieut. Connolly	370
25. Lieut. Vynny	370
26. Lieut. Knight	370
27. Lieut. Blythe	370
28. Lieut. Francis	370
29. Lieut. Clement	370
30. Lieut. Lister	370
31. Lieut. Connolly	370
32. Lieut. Vynny	370
33. Lieut. Knight	370
34. Lieut. Blythe	370
35. Lieut. Francis	370
36. Lieut. Clement	370
37. Lieut. Lister	370
38. Lieut. Connolly	370
39. Lieut. Vynny	370
40. Lieut. Knight	370
41. Lieut. Blythe	370
42. Lieut. Francis	370
43. Lieut. Clement	370
44. Lieut. Lister	370
45. Lieut. Connolly	370
46. Lieut. Vynny	370
47. Lieut. Knight	370
48. Lieut. Blythe	370
49. Lieut. Francis	370
50. Lieut. Clement	370
51. Lieut. Lister	370
52. Lieut. Connolly	370
53. Lieut. Vynny	370
54. Lieut. Knight	370
55. Lieut. Blythe	370
56. Lieut. Francis	370
57. Lieut. Clement	370
58. Lieut. Lister	370
59. Lieut. Connolly	370
60. Lieut. Vynny	370
61. Lieut. Knight	370
62. Lieut. Blythe	370
63. Lieut. Francis	370
64. Lieut. Clement	370
65. Lieut. Lister	370
66. Lieut. Connolly	370
67. Lieut. Vynny	370
68. Lieut. Knight	370
69. Lieut. Blythe	370
70. Lieut. Francis	370
71. Lieut. Clement	370
72. Lieut. Lister	370
73. Lieut. Connolly	370
74. Lieut. Vynny	370
75. Lieut. Knight	370
76. Lieut. Blythe	370
77. Lieut. Francis	370
78. Lieut. Clement	370
79. Lieut. Lister	370
80. Lieut. Connolly	370
81. Lieut. Vynny	370
82. Lieut. Knight	370
83. Lieut. Blythe	370
84. Lieut. Francis	370
85. Lieut. Clement	370
86. Lieut. Lister	370
87. Lieut. Connolly	370
88. Lieut. Vynny	370
89. Lieut. Knight	370
90. Lieut. Blythe	370
91. Lieut. Francis	370
92. Lieut. Clement	370
93. Lieut. Lister	370
94. Lieut. Connolly	370
95. Lieut. Vynny	370
96. Lieut. Knight	370
97. Lieut. Blythe	370
98. Lieut. Francis	370
99. Lieut. Clement	370
100. Lieut. Lister	370

Mr. Wotton addressed the Court for the defence at some length, admitting that the complainant had recovered some wounds on the head, but he contended that there was no evidence except the complainant's statement to show that these had been inflicted by the Captain. They had probably been recovered in the struggle with Doyle. His

#### Marine Court.

(Before Capt. H. G. Thompson, R.N., Saturday, Dec. 20.)

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON BOARD SHIP. The case against Thomas Gibson Taylor, master of the British barque *Minnie Carmichael*, for alleged assault upon a seaman named Martin Johnson, adjourned yesterday, was resumed this morning. Mr. Doyle, who represented the complainant and Mr. Wotton for the defence.

The statement made by the complainant, Johnson, yesterday, was to the effect that he and several other members of the crew of the *Minnie Carmichael* had joined the ship at Melbourne. Several of them were arrested by the police at Newcastle, N.S.W., but complainant and three others were before a magistrate on their voyage to Hongkong. The four men were brought off before the captain and asked if they would turn to. One of them agreed and was released and sent forward, the other three, among whom was complainant, were confined in irons. The different parts of the ship. Complainant was placed in the lazarette, aft, and he stated that while he was there Captain Taylor came down to the lazarette and attacked him without any provocation, striking him upon the head with the butt of a rifle three inches broad and eighteen inches long, and inflicting serious wounds which rendered him insensible. Several scars were still to be seen upon complainant's head.

Coram, a seaman on board the *Minnie Carmichael*, and one of the deserters who were brought back on board with complainant, gave evidence as to seeing Johnson in the lazarette. After leaving Newcastle the boatman, who acted as mate, came to witness, and was confined in irons. He was asked if he saw the captain strike the complainant, and he said he did not see him. He afterwards saw Johnson with his head bandaged up after he was released. He saw the mate, or boatman, with something on his hand, he did not know if it was a knuckle-duster.

George Peck, another seaman on board the *Minnie Carmichael*, gave evidence as to what occurred when he and the other three deserters were brought on board. He did not see the assault committed on the complainant but he saw him after he was released with his head bandaged up.

James Doyle said that he was at present boatman of the *Minnie Carmichael* but that he had joined the ship as mate eight months ago. He gave evidence as to the men deserting and being brought on board. He put the men in irons on the authority of the police officer who brought them on board. He put complainant in the lazarette, and after they were under weigh he went down to him and asked him if he would turn to. Complainant agreed to do so, but after witness had taken of one hand-off complainant made a rush to get on deck. Witness detained him and then the complainant struck him in the eye. Witness returned the blow, and a scuffle ensued. Complainant got witness down. He called for help and the captain came and pulled Johnson off him. Witness succeeded in getting the other iron upon complainant again.

Cross examined, this witness said that he did not afterwards said that he resisted as much as he could. He denied that complainant had been so much hurt as to be unable to resist. He was sure the captain never went down to the lazarette after the time when he was released. He was asked if he saw the captain strike the complainant, and he said he did not see him. He afterwards saw Johnson with his head bandaged up after he was released. He saw the mate, or boatman, with something on his hand, he did not know if it was a knuckle-duster.

At the conclusion of the case this morning, Mr. Wotton called, as witness, John T. Marcy, master of the American barque *Furness Abbey*, which arrived here yesterday from Newcastle N.S.W.

Captain Marcy gave evidence to the effect that he was at Melbourne when the *Minnie Carmichael* left Newcastle on the 20th Oct. six days before witness left. Witness was in his cabin and witness told him there was trouble with the men in the lazarette and he said he would put a stop to it. Witness, shortly after left the vessel and went ashore. The story told by complainant was then recapitulated to the witness, who did not believe Captain Taylor was the man to commit such a dastardly assault.

Cross-examined by Mr. Caldwell witness said that while he was on board Captain Taylor was not in the lazarette. Witness could not say whether the boatman had a knuckle-duster on when he was struggling with complainant; he did not see one. The boatman had blood on his hands and coat, and two marks on his face. It would not be true to say that Captain Taylor pulled complainant off the boatman, at least while witness was on board the vessel.

By Mr. Wotton—Witness believed that the wounds on complainant's head might have been made by the beams in the roof of the lazarette.

To the Court—Witness left the ship just before the trial; the boatman was then on the head, but he could not possibly have gone into the lazarette without witness having seen him at any time while he was on board.

Mr. Wotton addressed the Court for the defence at some length, admitting that the complainant had recovered some wounds on the head, but he contended that there was no evidence except the complainant's statement to show that these had been inflicted by the Captain. They had probably been recovered in the struggle with Doyle. His

client was prepared to swear that he had never struck the complainant, and Captain Marcy's evidence went to confirm this. A summons taken out by Johnson against Doyle for assaulting him on the 26th Oct., when leaving Newcastle, had been withdrawn.

His Worship decided that there was not sufficient evidence to show that an assault had been committed by Captain Taylor; he therefore dismissed the summons. His Worship could not however understand why the summons against Doyle should have been withdrawn as there seemed little doubt that he was the responsible party.

Another summons was then heard in which James Doyle, the boatman of the *Minnie Carmichael*, was charged with assaulting J. Haggelstein, an able seaman of the *Minnie Carmichael*. Complainant stated that while at sea, on the 6th inst., about dinner time, he was ordered by Doyle to take a coil of rope from the poop forward. He dragged the rope along to the break in the poop to be able to pick it up, when defendant came up to him, and, swearing at him, not picking it up, struck him three blows in the face with his fist, blacking his eye and cutting his mouth. The captain was upon the poop and must have seen it. William Gray and Martin Corcoran, two seamen on board, deposed as to seeing the assault.

The case was remanded till Monday for the evidence of Captain Taylor, who had left the Court.

#### NOTES OF A VISIT TO THE SCENE OF THE FRENCH OPERATIONS ON THE RIVER MIN.

A correspondent, who signs himself 'Neutral,' writes to us as follows:—

Foochow, Dec. 15.

Entering the river from seaward, steamers are stopped and boarded by a Chinese Government official, who is supposed to pilot the vessel safely through the torpedo ground, which extends from a little way below the Oriental Rock, to some distance below Salamis Island, known to the Chinese as Nan-Pai Kwei. The channel is supposed to be marked by boats flying a red flag by day and showing a white light at night, but I was informed by the officers of H.M.S. *Supply* that these boats were quite unable to maintain their positions, and were constantly shifting, owing to the strong tides. The steamer I went up in had barely room to pass between the boats and Salamis Island, and I could not help noticing the great risk a vessel coming out on the flood tide would run of hitting the Island, owing to the narrow passage and the chop-chow water off the Island.

This was verified a few days after by the loss of the well known steamer *Kuangtung* through the cross ignorance of the man put on board by the Chinese authorities to pilot her safely through. Great sympathy is felt in Foochow for her popular commander, who lost all his property except what he stood in, but saved his passengers, crew, and a great part of the treasure on board, owing to the admirable discipline maintained, and the good order and efficiency of the boats, which have always been a first consideration with the owners of this line of steamers, than which there are no better or safer in the Far East.

The Kimpai Fort shows signs of rough handling, the one on the right bank being replaced by a sand bag battery, without any guns except one or two six pounder painted vermilion. The embrasures are carefully screened with mats.

A new wall has been built round the crest of the hill above with a deep trench on the outside; the use of it for military purposes is best known to the constructors thereof. On the upper side of the Pass, on the same side of the river, a crenelated wall for musketry has been constructed.

Half the battery on the left bank has been destroyed; the other half is intact and men are busy repairing the damage with sand bags. I heard that three of the heavy guns recovered from the sunken gunboats are to be mounted there.

The Fort at the entrance of the Min-gan pass show much less damage than one would have supposed from published accounts. There are a number of old pieces in position on the right bank, but I saw no heavy guns. Large bodies of men are repairing the damage with sand bags and the submarine fort on the right bank appeared to be patched up for 'look-see.' Half the concrete battery on the left bank is in ruins, the lower and intact and stuck over with flags. There were large camps on each side of the river hereabouts.

Within the Pass the town appeared unharmed except for some breaches in the old walls, probably the result of age and neglect. Higher up a concrete battery on the left bank showed signs of the French shells; but a good part was intact.

The old walls on Couding Island showed signs of a trial shot or two, but there being no retreat from this position, it was not defended. There appear to be some recently constructed earthworks on the Umbrella. Two ridge not visible coming up river; this is a good position for works as it commands two narrow reaches of the gorge and offers an easy retreat.

Emerging from the upper end of the Pass the river widens and there are no more defences between this and the Anchorage.

Close to Flat Island is the wreck of a gunboat with one mast and stern above water. She is on a rock. The Forts on Loing Island are tolerably well extinguished as defences, but there is no sign of any wanton destruction in any of the villages above, or below, the Arsenal. The latter seems very little damaged; there is one tall chimney gone and the lower end of the large ship has sustained some damage, which was being repaired.

The large towers are uninjured. The vessel on the slip has had a few holes knocked in

her by shot. Those are now repaired, and the scaffolding over the building slips is all intact, and the sound of many hammers is distinctly audible in passing up and down the river. Chinmoyes are smoking and engines puffing and the works seem in full swing despite the bombardment. It is said the best machinery was removed and hidden weeks before the fight! There is a small newly erected three gun battery just below the Foochow Dock, which now contains poor Captain Le Bauh's vessel, which got on shore higher up and broke her back. She is only being repaired for look-see purposes, it is said, being unfit for fighting. Nevertheless poor Le Bauh has been sentenced to penal servitude for doing his best with the poor material he had. He is a very intelligent man, and the Chinese can ill afford to dispense with such men as he at the present time. Mr. Chung Ki Lung could be much better done without; unfortunately Le Bauh knows all about his flight, and has been marked for suppression. Previous to the bombardment all his representations and requests to be allowed to act as seemed best to him were ignored and this will be the case to the end of the chapter under the present system. There are foreigners in China who can save Le Bauh, and it is to be hoped they will be induced to lay the true state of affairs before His Excellency Li Hung Chang and this preserve to China a man who can do her good service yet. The Chinese must alter their present bloodthirsty and one-sided code if they would be well served by their own people or others.

Above the Arsenal, at Limpo, the Chinese have sunk stone-junks in the main river and are raising piles of stones between them. This has had the effect of deepening the creek, or cut off, on the right shore, so that the gunboats can get up or down with ease. There are extensive earthworks being constructed on each side of the river here, the largest on the right bank abreast of the creek. I saw no guns of any size. There are rifle pits in a grove of pines on the left bank, commanding the crossing. Higher up there are camps on both sides of the river, and a mandarin with soldiers has taken up his quarters in the Kushan Monastery, possibly to look after future runaways!

The general opinion of foreigners here, many of whom were eyewitnesses of the fight, seems to be that the French behaved with great moderation, in no case being guilty of wanton destruction of life or property. They came to destroy the fleet and did so, but I have the testimony of British naval officers that they picked up many of the struggling Chinese out of the water. They did not save more must be put down to the stern exigencies of the situation, and I trust that Britons will be the last to believe that gallant and brave French men would so easily the name of their country and flag as to deny any possible succor to a helpless and fallen foe.

His Excellency Tso was expected to make his entry here yesterday, but so far I have heard nothing of it.

All the treasure except one box has been recovered from the wreck of the *Kuangtung* and I hear the divers consider it practicable to raise the vessel. The *Douglas* proceeds to Keelung to tow the *s.s. Lora Tally* across to Amoy. The *Monocacy* leaves on the 19th for Shanghai.

The Races went off very well in perfect weather, but a gloom was cast over the proceedings on the third day, by an unfortunate accident to a popular local rider whose pony took the rails, and threw him, with the result of a broken leg. He is doing well, I am glad to record. The Race Ball was a great success, thanks to the energetic stewards and our naval friends.

The natives are very quiet and civil now.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

THE NATIVES ARE VERY QUIET AND CIVIL NOW.

required to resist the present power of foreign ships which may attack them, and consequently must be of a more formidable nature than was at first contemplated; therefore some of the guns have been chosen from the latest pattern of breech-loading ordnance, which has greatly increased the cost.

I am to observe that the Secretary of State is strongly of opinion and desires to press upon their Lordships the manufacture of the guns and mountings should be commenced and urged on with all speed, so that the defences of these important coaling stations could be completed and armed within three years.

7. The Marquis of Hartington would observe, in conclusion, that the charge on Vote 12 will be about 138,000, annually for the period stated, an amount considerably in excess of that which will fall on the Works Vote and which cannot be provided without a large addition to the ordinary annual estimates as sanctioned in recent years.

I have, &c.  
(Signed) ARTHUR D. HAYTER.

ALLOTMENT OF PROPOSED EXPENDITURE ON DEFENCE OF FOREIGN COASTING STATIONS, WHEN SPREAD OVER THREE YEARS.

STATEMENT A.—Works.

Station.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Total.
Aden	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Colombo	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Hongkong	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Shanghai	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Swatow	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Yokohama	4,000	4,000	4,000	12,000
Total	24,000	24,000	24,000	72,000

STATEMENT B.—Armaments.

Station.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Total.
Aden	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Colombo	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Hongkong	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Shanghai	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Swatow	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Yokohama	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Total	72,000	72,000	72,000	216,000

STATEMENT C.—Armaments.

Station.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Total.
Aden	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Colombo	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Hongkong	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Shanghai	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Swatow	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Yokohama	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Total	72,000	72,000	72,000	216,000

STATEMENT D.—Armaments.

Station.	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Total.
Aden	12,000	12,000	12,000	36,000
Col	20,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Imperial	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
Colonial	20,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Total	42,000	32,000	32,000	106,000



